## Message Text

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**ACTION NEA-16** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-03

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FPC-01 H-03 INR-11 INT-08 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06

SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 FRB-03 FEA-02 IO-14 DLOS-07

COA-02 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01 /193 W

----- 072505

R 011030Z AUG 74 FM AMEMBASSY DACCA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3860 INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ENRG, IN, BG

SUBJ: POSSIBLE INDIA-BANGLADESH OFFSHORE BOUNDARY DISPUTE

REF: A. DACCA 2342 B. NEW DELHI 6722 C. DACCA 2988 D. DELHI 9094

1. CARLSBERG PETROLEUM REP ALAN CHATFIELD CALLED ON EMBOFF JULY 31 TO REPORT ON PROGRESS OF THEIR NEGOTIATIONS FOR ONSHORE OIL EXPLORATION RIGHTS IN BANGLADESH. CHATFIELD REPORTED THAT BOTH CARLSBERG AND ASHLAND WERE AWARE OF PROBABLE REPEAT PROBABLE OVERLAP IN THEIR RESPECTIVE OFFSHORE EXPLORATION AREAS AS DELINEATED BY INDIA AND BANGLADESH. HE STATED THAT BOTH COMPANIES WERE HOPING THAT NO OIL WOULD BE FOUND IN THE AREAS OF POSSIBLE DISPUTE. HE IMPLIED THE COMPANIES HAD LITTLE CONFIDENCE IN THE ABILITY OF THE TWO COUNTRIES TO RESOLVE THE BOUNDARY QUESTION THEMSELVES, EXPECIALLY IF OIL IS DISCOVERED IN THE AREAS OF OVERLAP.

2.

COMMENT: WE APPEAR TO BE ON BRINK OF STEPPING THROUGH LOOKING GLASS TO ALICE IN WONDERLAND SITUATION WHERE US OIL EXPLORATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FIRMS, HAVING ARRANGED TO EXPLORE FOR OFFSHORE OIL, HOPE NOT TO

FIND IT. WHILE WE CONCUR WITH NEW DELHI'S RECOMMENDATION (PARA 4, REFTEL D) THAT WE NOT SHARE WITH BDG THE LATITUDE/LONGITUDE DESCRIPTIONS FROM THE GOI/CARLSBERG AGREEMENT, WE DO URGE NEW DELHI TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT DISCREETLY EARLY GOI/BDG BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS (PARA 2, REF D) AND WE WOULD PROPOSE TO DO LIKEWISE WITH BDG AFTER BDG/ASHLAND CONTRACT IS ACTUALLY SIGNED. BOSTER

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: TERRITORIAL WATERS, OFFSHORE OIL FIELDS, EXPLORATORY DRILLING, BUSINESS FIRMS

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Review Authority: boyleja

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: POSSIBLE INDIA-BANGLADESH OFFSHORE BOUNDARY DISPUTE

TAGS: ENRG, IN, BG, US

To: STATE

Type: TE

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